



Port Community Information Bulletin # 19-02
Marine Safety Office (813) 228-2189
Tampa, Florida

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UNATTENDED JACOB LADDERS

The port of Tampa has been operating under a heightened security posture since the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. This increased posture ensures the safety of the port, vessels, infrastructure and the Marine Transportation System (MTS). Recently, U. S. Coast Guard night security patrols have identified an alarming number of moored vessels with their Jacob ladders deployed down the outboard side of the vessel allowing easy unauthorized access to a potential terrorist under the cover of night. It is in the best interest of the vessel, its crew, the port and port infrastructure and the MTS for all vessels to secure their Jacob ladders on board the vessel prior to nightfall. If a vessel is identified in this condition MSO personnel will immediately contact the agent, the Master of the vessel and/or the facility to request compliance. Your cooperation in this matter is critical.

Your support in our mission to strengthen Homeland Security is greatly appreciated.

J. M. FARLEY
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard
Captain of the Port